Highway Coastal Corridor in Andhra Pradesh

2468. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action is being taken to build a highway coastal corridor, especially in Andhra Coast for speedy movement of traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the work would be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to build a highway coastal corridor. Most of the States' coastal lines are already connected with National Highways. In Andhra Pradesh National Highways No.5 and 214 are on coastal corridor. National Highway No. 5 is being four laned under the Golden Quardrilateral component of National Highways Development Project. The work is targeted to be substantially completed by December, 2003.

Change in Number Plates of Vehicles

2469. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to change the number plates of vehicles in the country with a view to make them security fool-proof by February, 2003; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for the present change in the number plates for which the deadline had been fixed as July this year; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the current order for changing the number plates could have been kept in abeyance till February, 2003, instead of causing inconvenience and avoidable expenditure to six crore vehicle owners in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir. The new High Security Registration Plates which are scheduled to come into force from 28.2.2003 contain a number of security features such as: